

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-38 were pending in the above-captioned application when the present Office Action was mailed (May 17, 2006). In this response, claims 2, 3, 14, 19 and 25 have been amended, and new claims 39-42 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-42 are currently pending.

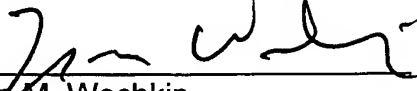
In the May 17, 2006 Office Action, claims 1, 4-13, 15-18, and 29-38 were allowed, and claims 2, 3, 14, and 19-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Without conceding the merits of the Examiner's Section 112 rejections, the claim features upon which the Examiner's rejections are based have been removed from the above-identified claims, without narrowing (and, in fact, in a manner that broadens) the claims. Accordingly, the Section 112 rejections of these claims should be withdrawn, and this application should proceed to issuance.

New claims 39 and 40 have been added to depend from claim 19, and new claims 41 and 42 have been added to depend from claim 25. These claims should be allowed as depending from allowable base claims, and for the additional features of these dependent claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants believe the pending application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner discovers any informalities or other matters that can be expediently handled by telephone, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (206) 359-3257 to handle such matters.

Dated: Aug. 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By   
John M. Wechkin

Registration No.: 42,216  
PERKINS COIE LLP  
P.O. Box 1247  
Seattle, Washington 98111-1247  
(206) 359-3257  
(206) 359-4257 (Fax)  
Attorney for Applicant